shaft, a stopper mechanism that stops said screw shaft in said first position, and an attachment ring mounted on said screw shaft, said anchor section having a threaded hole adapted to engage the threaded screw shaft when said anchor section is in said first position.

A1 (cont'd)

REMARKS

Responsive to the office action dated March 6, 2002, reconsideration and allowance of amended claim 1 and newly added claims 2-5 is respectfully requested.

Regarding Examiner's comments on stopper mechanism 4, as it is shown in the drawings, the number 4 has been underlined to indicate it is a general description of the stopper mechanism. The actual components that stop rotation of anchor section 2 are trunnions 8a, attachment ring 8 adjustment holes 7, and protrusions 7a (see page 7, lines 11 et seq.).

Also enclosed is the certified copy of Japanese Patent No. 2000-238503.

Claim 1 has been amended, inter alia, to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C.112; in particular, the term "cross" on line 7 has been corrected to read --first--. Claim 1 has been further amended to set forth that the screw shaft is threaded and that the hole in anchor section is also threaded.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to claim 1 by the current amendment. The attached page is labeled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grey is

traversed for the reasons to follow.

Grey discloses a toggle bolt 10 that includes a shaft, or shank 12 and rotating sleeve 18. Spring 28 urges pivoting of sleeve 18 into the cross wise position. Finger-like extensions 34 are provided on sleeve 18 to prevent turning of sleeve 18.

Claim 1, as amended, sets forth that the anchor section has a threaded hole that engages the threaded screw shaft. This direct coupling of the screw shaft and anchor section increases the anchoring strength of the anchor bolt. In addition, since the screw shaft and anchor section are linked by screw coupling, the device of the present invention can be used in walls and boards of varied thickness by using various lengths of screw shafts for the anchor section.

It is clear under the patent law that in order to reject claims as being anticipated by a prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. § 102, every element and limitation of the claimed invention must be found in a single prior art reference (see Brown v. 3M, 60 USPQ2d 1375, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2001). It is clear that Grey fails to disclose the direct coupling of the screw shaft and the anchor section; shank 12 of Grey extends through non threaded hole 26.

Dependent claims 2 and 3 have been added to set forth specific details on the stopper mechanism. In essence, the holes, protrusions and contacting members set forth are not shown in Grey. Thus, dependent claims 2 and 3 should be allowable.

The Beirbidge, Topf and Place patents have been reviewed but it is believed claims 1-3 patentably distinguish thereover.

In view of the above, it is requested that the application be passed to issue with claims 1-3 therein.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A board anchor comprising a threaded screw shaft having a longitudinal axis, a freely rotating anchor section attached to the screw shaft, [a stop] an attachment for re-positioning the anchor section in a first position substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said screw shaft from an initial position parallel with said longitudinal axis of said screw shaft, a stopper mechanism that stops said screw shaft, a stopper mechanism that stops said screw shaft in said [cross] first position, and an attachment ring mounted on said screw shaft, said anchor section having a threaded hole adapted to [fit] engage the threaded screw shaft when said anchor section is in said first position.

Claims 2 and 3 have been added as follows:

2. The board anchor of claim 1 wherein said stopper mechanism comprises first and second adjustment holes formed on said anchor section, said first and second adjustment holes having first and second protrusions each having a first surface formed thereon.

3. The board anchor of claim 2 wherein said stopper mechanism further includes first and second members formed on said attachment ring, said first and second members contacting said first surface formed on said first and second protrusions.